

REMARKS

This is a response to the office action issued on Dec. 2, 2005. Claims 1-20 are pending with claims 6-7 withdrawn.

The examiner rejected claims 1-5, 9, 10, 13, 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilmers.

The examiner rejected claims 1-5, 9, 10, 13, 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Focke et al.

The examiner rejected claims 10, 13, 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reinicke et al.

The examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8-10, 13, 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gipson et al.

The examiner rejected claims 11, 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilmers or Focke et al. or Reinicke et al or Gipson et al.

The independent claims have been amended to contain an x-y positioner. None of the cited art discloses such a positioner used with a magnetostrictive nozzle. Some dependent claims now claim a plurality of nozzles. None of the cited art discloses a plurality of magnetostrictive nozzles used with an x-y positioner.

For these reasons, the examiner will find that the claims are now allowable. The examiner is respectfully requested to place the case in condition for allowance at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted

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